

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 166473  
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
/047 R

DRAFTED BY UNA:JTEFFT/IO/UNP:BFOPPEL:GDG  
APPROVED BY IO:JABAKER  
IO/UNP:GBHELMAN  
EUR/NE:NGOODMAN (SUBS)

-----082444 160320Z /61

O 160212Z JUL 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166473

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW)

SUBJECT: PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS IN LONDON

REF.: A) LONDON 11238; B) LONDON 11561; C) LONDON 11569

1. THIS CABLE PROVIDES BACKGROUND ON SOME OF THE KEY ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS IN LONDON ON MONDAY, MAY 19. BILL MAYNES WILL HAVE COMPLETE COPY OF BRIEFING MATERIALS AND HOPES TO TALK WITH YOU BEFORE CONSULTATIONS BEGIN. HOWEVER, BECAUSE THERE WILL BE LITTLE TIME FOR BRIEFING, WE THOUGHT IT BEST TO CABLE SOME MATERIAL FOR YOUR PERUSAL IN GENEVA, ESPECIALLY ON SOME KEY POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES.

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2. UK APPROACH TO MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS:

AS BEFITS COUNTRIES ENJOYING A "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP," THE US AND UK GENERALLY SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER'S POSITIONS MULTILATERALLY. ON THOSE OCCASIONS WHEN WE DIFFER, IT IS LIKELY TO BE MORE ON TACTICS, THAN SUBSTANCE. AT THE 30TH UNGA, IT VOTED AGAINST RESOLUTION 3379 EQUATING ZIONISM AND RACISM. IT IS A MEMBER OF THE KOREA CORE GROUP, AND COSPONSORED THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION ON KOREA. IT COSPONSORED THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION AT THE

31ST UNGA PRIOR TO ITS WITHDRAWAL. ALSO AT THE LAST SESSION, IT VOTED AGAINST THE GUAM RESOLUTION, AND SUPPORTED US ON KEY SOUTHERN AFRICAN AND ARMS CONTROL ISSUES. IT ABSTAINED ON KEY NORTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC ISSUES. IN ADDITION, IT SUPPORTED OUR POSITIONS AT THE GENEVA ILO CONFERENCE.

THE UNITED KINGDOM IS:

- ON THE ECOSOC
- ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
- ON THE SSOD PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
- ON THE CCD
- ON THE UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL
- ON THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL.

3. ISSUES:

A. AFRICA: YOUR MEETING WITH DAVID OWEN WILL LIKELY CENTER ON FUTURE POLICY TOWARD SOUTHERN AFRICA. YOU WILL HAVE SEEN LONDON'S EXCELLENT PROFILE OF OWEN'S CURRENT MOOD REF. C. YOUR MEETING WITH OWEN WILL IMMEDIATELY PRECEDE OWEN'S TRIP TO THE US FOR CON-  
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SULTATIONS WITH THE SECRETARY ON FUTURE POLICY TOWARD RHODESIA. HE MAY GIVE YOU SOME IDEA ON WHAT FURTHER PLANS MIGHT BE. THE BRITISH WILL ALSO PROBABLY WISH TO DISCUSS WITH YOU THE QUESTION OF SANCTIONS. AS YOU KNOW THE RECENT US-BRITISH CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON WERE LARGELY CONCERNED WITH BRITISH CONCERN THAT WE NOT MOVE AHEAD ON SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. THE BRITISH MAY WANT TO DISCUSS EXPANSION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA.

B. MIDDLE EAST: BRITISH VIEWS ON THE NEGOTIATING STRATEGY ARE VERY CLOSE TO OURS, ALTHOUGH THEY CANNOT ALWAYS BE COUNTED ON TO SUPPORT US ON IMPORTANT MIDDLE EAST ISSUES IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE GA. THEIR OFFICIAL POSITION IS FORMALLY TIED TO THAT OF THE EC-9. THE NINE RECENTLY RELEASED A POLICY STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST, WHICH IS CLOSE TO OUR OWN DESCRIPTION OF THE "CORE ISSUES", BUT WHICH LAYS CONSIDERABLY MORE STRESS ON THE PALESTINIAN DIMENSION OF THE PROBLEM. THE NINE ALSO CONSIDER THAT THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE "MUST" PARTICIPATE IN NEGOTIATIONS, THOUGH IN AN "APPROPRIATE MANNER TO BE WORKED OUT IN CONSULTATION BETWEEN ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED."

THE BRITISH HAVE GENERALLY NOT TAKEN AS SERIOUS A VIEW AS HAVE WE OF EFFORTS TO ISOLATE AND CONDEMN ISRAEL IN THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, OR OF MOVES TO ENHANCE THE

STATUTE OF THE PLO. WHEN WE ASK FOR THEIR SUPPORT, HOWEVER, THEY WILL GENERALLY GIVE IT, EVEN WHEN THEY DISAGREE WITH OUR TACTICS, SUCH AS DURING THE RECENT ILC.

C. CYPRUS: THE UNIQUELY STRONG BRITISH INTEREST IN CYPRUS IS REFLECTED IN THEIR LARGE CONTINGENT IN UNFICYP. THE BRITISH CONTINUE TO RETAIN THE SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS AT OUR URGING, THOUGH THEY ARE HARD PRESSED TO FUND THE COSTS OF OPERATING THEM AND HAVE REQUESTED  
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US ASSISTANCE. WE CONSULT CLOSELY WITH THE UK WHEN CYPRUS ARISES AT THE UNGA AND IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE BRITISH ARE ALSO OUR PRINCIPAL LINK TO THE EC-9 ON CYPRUS AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ISSUES. SINCE THERE IS A CLOSE IDENTITY OF OUR POSITIONS ON CYPRUS AT THE UN AND THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS, YOU MAY WISH TO FOCUS ON OUR CONCERNS REGARDING UNFICYP, WHICH WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED IN ANY DETAIL WITH THE UK.

D. HUMAN RIGHTS: THE BRITISH TRADITIONALLY HAVE PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HUMAN RIGHTS AFFAIRS IN THE UN, BOTH IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. THEY ARE STRONG SUPPORTERS OF WESTERN APPROACHES TO HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS AND ARE PREPARED TO SPEAK OUT ON THEM. THE BRITISH, LIKE OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN MEMBERS, VOTED AGAINST THE ZIONISM-RACISM RESOLUTION IN 1975. AT ECOSOC THIS YEAR THEY JOINED MOST EC-9 MEMBERS IN ABSTAINING ON THE RESOLUTION ON THE PROGRAM FOR THE DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM DUE TO UNACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE ON ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. THEY JOINED THE CONSENSUS ON THE RESOLUTION ON THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM.

THE BRITISH HAVE SAID THEY WANT TO DISCUSS THE CHILE QUESTION, WHICH WILL COME UP AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNDER THE AGENDA ITEM ON THE REPORT OF ECOSOC, BUT HAVE NOT INDICATED THE SCOPE OF THEIR INTEREST. (THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION'S AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON CHILE, WHICH HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE SINCE 1975, WILL PRESENT AN UPDATED REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE GENERALLY LAUDABLE EFFORTS OF THE WORKING GROUP TO REPORT ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CHILE, BUT THEIR WORK HAS BEEN HAMPERED BY THE  
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REFUSAL OF THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT TO LET THEM VISIT THERE. THE SWEDES HAVE TOLD US THEY PLAN TO TAKE THE LEAD IN DRAFTING A CHILE RESOLUTION FOR CONSIDERATION

AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BUT WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY FURTHER DETAILS FROM THEM.)

E. BELIZE: BELIZE IS THE LAST BRITISH COLONY ON THE AMERICAN MAINLAND. BRITAIN WOULD DEARLY LOVE TO GIVE ITS 130,000 INHABITANTS INDEPENDENCE, BUT THE BELIZEANS ARE RELUCTANT TO ASK FOR IT UNTIL GUATEMALA'S HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD CLAIM TO THE TERRITORY IS SETTLED. THE UK WISHES TO GET OUT OF BELIZE, BUT NOT BEFORE REACHING A SETTLEMENT WITH GUATEMALA. THEY ARE UNWILLING TO GIVE THE BELIZEANS A DEFENSE GUARANTEE.

NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN UNDERWAY FOR SOME TIME. THE LAST ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS, HELD IN WASHINGTON JULY 6-7, PRODUCED AN AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATING. MINISTER OF STATE TED ROWLANDS WILL BE GOING TO GUATEMALA JULY 19-21 TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT LAUGERUD ON THE ISSUE. THE STICKING POINT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IS TERRITORIAL CESSION; WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE PARTIES HAVE PRIVATELY DISCUSSED A FORMULA INVOLVING CESSION OF THE LAND SOUTH OF THE MOHO RIVER.

IN 1975 AND AGAIN IN 1976, THE UNGA OVERWHELMINGLY APPROVED RESOLUTIONS CALLING FOR THE "SELF-DETERMINATION, INDEPENDENCE, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY" OF BELIZE. WE ABSTAINED BOTH TIMES. WE HAVE COUNSELED FLEXIBILITY AND MODERATION TO BOTH SIDES, AND URGED THEM TO REACH A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. THE ISSUE MAY COME UP AGAIN AT THIS YEAR'S UNGA WITH THE CARIBBEAN STATES SEEKING A TOUGHER PRO-BELIZE RESOLUTION.

F. FALKLAND ISLANDS: ARGENTINA CLAIMS SOVEREIGNTY  
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OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS), WHICH ARE INHABITED BY SETTLERS OF BRITISH ANCESTRY AND ARE PRESENTLY ADMINISTERED AS A BRITISH COLONY. IN 1976 THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 102-1(UK)-32(US) A RESOLUTION WHICH EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO FACILITATE THE PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION AND TO PROMOTE THE WELL BEING OF THE POPULATION OF THE ISLANDS, REQUESTED ARGENTINA AND THE UK TO EXPEDITE NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING THE DISPUTE OVER SOVEREIGNTY, CALLED ON THE TWO PARTIES TO REFRAIN FROM DECISIONS "THAT WOULD IMPLY INTRODUCING UNILATERAL MODIFICATIONS" AND REQUESTED BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO REPORT TO THE UN ON THE RESULTS OF NEGOTIATIONS.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UK AND ARGENTINA MET ON JULY 12 IN ROME TO DISCUSS THE SOVEREIGNTY QUESTION, BUT RESULTS OF THESE TALKS ARE NOT YET KNOWN IN WASHINGTON. THE

UK WISHES TO DIVEST ITSELF OF THIS REMNANT OF ITS COLONIAL EMPIRE, BUT DOES NOT WISH TO TRANSFER SOVEREIGNTY OF THE ISLANDS TO ARGENTINA AGAINST THE WILL OF THE LOCAL INHABITANTS. IT IS LIKELY THAT THE BRITISH WILL INFORM THE US OF THE OUTCOME OF THE JULY 12 MEETING. THEY MAY ALSO ASK FOR US SUPPORT IN THEIR DISPUTE WITH ARGENTINA. THE US MAINTAINS A POSITION OF STRICT NEUTRALITY BETWEEN BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA IN THIS MATTER.

G. CIEC AND THE ROLE OF THE UN IN THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE. THE UK HAS BEEN GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE US IN THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE IN THE UN AND IN CIEC. IT PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN THE MINISTERIAL CIEC IN AS MUCH AS ITS FOREIGN MINISTER, DAVID OWEN, REPRESENTED THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (THE UK HAD THE PRESIDENCY). THE UK, CONFIDENTIAL

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WITH MOST OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EC-9, CONSIDERED THE CIEC FOR THE MOST PART TO BE A FAILURE AND AGREED IT SHOULD NOT BE TRIED AGAIN. THE GENERAL VIEW WAS THAT THE G-8 HAD PAID A PRICE TO AVOID A BREAKDOWN OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING AND HAD GOT NOTHING IN RETURN.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, JUDITH HART, SAID IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS THAT WHILE A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT AND TIME HAD GONE INTO CIEC, RESULTS HAVE IN GENERAL BEEN A DISAPPOINTMENT. SHE ADDED THAT THE NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES WOULD ONLY BEGIN TO BE RESOLVED WHEN THE RICH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES GENUINELY UNDERSTAND THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF THE WORLD ECONOMY, THE EFFECTS OF COLONIALISM AND NEO-COLONIALISM ON THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, AND THE INEQUALITIES IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WORLD'S WEALTH WHICH HAVE MOTIVATED THIRD WORLD DEMANDS FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. MRS. HART HAD EARLIER CRITICIZED THE RESULTS OF UNCTAD IV ON SIMILAR GROUNDS INDICATING A RANGE OF VIEWS IN THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT RATHER LIKE THAT AMONG THE EC COUNTRIES.

H. ILLICIT PAYMENTS. THE UNITED KINGDOM HAS BEEN CAUTIOUSLY SUPPORTIVE OF US EFFORTS TO OBTAIN AN AGREEMENT, BUT HAS EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT SOME OF OUR SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS. PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN JOINED THE COMMUNIQUE OF THE LONDON ECONOMIC SUMMIT IN SUPPORT OF ACTION AGAINST ILLICIT PAYMENTS. AT THE FINAL MEETING OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP ON THE PROBLEM OF CORRUPT PRACTICES, THE UK DELEGATE INTERVENED IN GENERAL SUPPORT OF THE US POSITION, ALTHOUGH THE BRITISH ARE SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE 1978 DATE FOR A DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE.

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PORG, OVIP, US, UK, (YOUNG, ANDREW)  
**To:** GENEVA INFO LONDON MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/eb048762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009